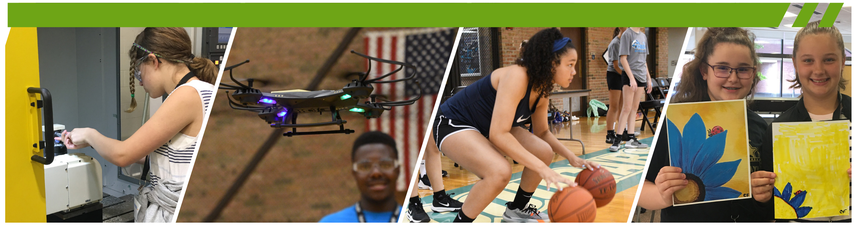
KALAMAZOO VALLEY YOUTH

# SUMMER CAMPS

## SUMMER IS COMING. GET READY FOR FUN!

**Looking for some summer fun? Explore Kalamazoo Valley's wide variety of youth summer camps. From athletics to hands-on learning, there's plenty at Kalamazoo Valley to keep kids busy all summer long!**



EDUCATIONAL CAMPS

Keep your kids sharp this summer with these hands-on learning experiences! All educational summer camps are for youths entering grades six through eight.

### EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE

**June 26 - 29 | 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | $175 | Anna Whitten Hall 128**
**July 10 - 13 | 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | $175 | Anna Whitten Hall 128**
**July 24 - 27 | 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | $175 | Anna Whitten Hall 128**
**July 31 - Aug. 3 | 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | $175 | Anna Whitten Hall 128**
Career-based camps that explore some of our degree and career paths available through the Early/Middle College program. Campers will experience math, science, animation, machining/manufacturing, horticulture and culinary arts. Students are provided a light breakfast, lunch, snacks and lots of Kalamazoo Valley swag. They will explore all four of our campus locations and transportation is provided to the Texas Township Campus during the week.

### URBAN FARM EXPLORERS

**July 17 - 20 | 8:30 a.m. - noon | $125 | Food Innovation Center**
See what is takes to grow, harvest and sample foods grown in our five-acre urban garden. Students will have the opportunity to explore our greenhouse, hoop houses and outdoor growing spaces, create salsa (depending on the seasonal availability of the produce), enjoy sampling local fresh produce and create art using botanicals.

### LEGO STOP ACTION ANIMATION CAMP

**July 17 - 20 | 1 - 4 p.m. | $125 | Center for New Media**
Legos! Camera! Action! Create your very own stop-action movie complete with a sound track.

### IT ALL ADDS UP!

**July 17 - 20 | 9 a.m. - noon | $125 | Anna Whitten Hall**
Join our math faculty for fun-filled mornings of math adventures. Use math to solve puzzles, trick your friends and amaze your family.

### ALL SIGNS POINT TO IT!

**July 17 - 20 | 9 a.m. - noon | $125 | Anna Whitten Hall**
Explore how non-verbal information is shared. Learn a few basic signs in American Sign Language while exploring how animation and non-verbal clues are used to describe the world.

### ACT OUT! A THEATER CAMP

**July 17 - 20 | 9 a.m. - noon | $125 | Anna Whitten Hall**
Join theater professional Laura Henderson to begin your first steps into the spotlight of theater. Learn how to do some performing, work on timing, speed and volume of delivery all while having a ball to compose an impromptu camp production!

### DRONE CAMP

**Aug. 7 - 10 | 9 - 11 a.m. or 1 - 3 p.m. | $150 | Texas Township Campus**
Campers will build their own drone to take home. The drone can be controlled with a phone or tablet. Campers will also have a chance to use radio-controlled cars, boats and take a dip in our indoor pool on the last day of camp.

### COMIC BOOK CAMP

**Aug. 7 - 10 | 9 a.m. - noon | $125 | Texas Township Campus**
Be inspired to create your own comic book with amazing artist Aubrey Rodgers! Students will learn design, perspective and composition and then create their own comic book. Students will share their creations and all campers will receive a copy of everyone's comic book.

### SCAN HERE FOR REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION

All camp registration information can be found at campusce.net/kvcccommunity under Youth Summer Camps, unless otherwise noted. Spots are filling up fast. Secure your place now!

# SPRING COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER OVERCOMES MANY CHALLENGES

*Ramiro Rodriguez*

Ramiro Rodriguez, the student speaker during Kalamazoo Valley's 88th Commencement ceremony on April 30, plans to transfer to Western Michigan University to study law enforcement. "I started out not knowing what I wanted to do after high school. I decided that rather than jumping into a bigger university, I'd go to Valley because it gives me more leeway if I change my mind," Rodriguez said. He toured the campus as a junior in high school and was impressed.

Kalamazoo Valley instructors Kristin DeKam and Karen Rivard both made an impact on Rodriguez. DeKam, critical thinking and philosophy instructor, taught Rodriguez to think differently about his college experience. Rivard, who serves as director of criminal justice/law enforcement and fire science programs, was also a huge influence.

"While being here at Valley for the last three years, I have learned a great amount about myself and how life works," Rodriguez said. "I have learned that nothing you want will come easy and free. I have learned that no matter what you do or how hard you pray, life will eventually toss you a curveball and try to strike you out. For me, my biggest curveball was thrown at me in the spring of my sophomore year of high school when I found out my father was going to prison. This was, and still is today, one of the most complex and hardening tasks that I have had to overcome. Being the only boy in my family meant I had to step up and develop into a man at an early age. I knew as a young kid in high school, and an early teenager in college, I would have to obtain and adapt to more responsibilities than most people my age. Although this has heavily affected me in ways that I cannot truly explain, I believe it has also shaped me to be the person I am today. You see, I have never been the 'smartest' individual when it comes to school and studying."

Rodriguez credits Lawton High School teacher Tony Karsen with teaching him to be disciplined in his approach to hard work and hard times. "This has not only gotten me through some of the hardest times of my life but has pushed me to be the best I can be," Rodriguez said. "I can truly say, throughout the hardships of my life, that discipline has been a key factor in me successfully becoming the person I want to be."

And while he knows he wants to study law enforcement, Rodriguez is open to exploring career opportunities in the criminal justice and law enforcement fields. His dream goal, he says, would be to work for a federal law enforcement agency. He is focused, determined and ready for the next challenge.

"Hardships are going to come, but we're here and we have step out of our comfort zones to keep moving ahead," he said. "I am a firm believer in completing tasks that challenge us and make us vulnerable. I believe every one of us grows as a person once we accomplish the things that scare us the most."

Kalamazoo Valley's Commencement ceremony takes place at 2 p.m. on April 30. The faculty speaker will be math instructor Daniel Cunningham. Lucinda Stinson, chairperson of the Board of Trustees, will also speak.

# BASKETBALL COACHES HONORED WITH AWARDS

*Felicia Thomas*

*Jim Horn*

Felicia Thomas, head women's basketball coach at Kalamazoo Valley Community College for three seasons, and Jim Horn, Valley's head men's basketball coach for eight seasons, have each been named Coach of the Year for the Western Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

The accolades come on the heels of both the women's and men's teams being declared Western conference champions for the recently concluded 2022 - 23 season by finishing No. 1. The Lady Cougars ended with an overall record of 17 - 10, and 10 - 2 in the conference. The men's team finished with an overall record of 23 - 7, and 10 - 2 in the conference as well.

"I am extremely proud of the student-athletes and coaches from each team and am excited to see how the teams shape up for 2023 - 24," said Athletic Director Russ Panico.

Read more about Valley sports at **athletics.kvcc.edu**.

# ENJOY FREE HOME BASEBALL, SOFTBALL GAMES

One sure sign that spring is here is the start of the 2023 baseball and softball season at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. Official conference games began in March. Drop in at any time to the home games, which are always free at the college's Texas Township Campus.

The remaining home softball games are 3 and 5 p.m. Friday, April 14 vs. Glen Oaks Community College; 3 and 5 p.m. Friday, April 28 vs. Marian University's Ancilla College; 3 and 5 p.m. Friday, May 5 vs. Lake Michigan College; and 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, May 6 vs. Lansing Community College.

The home baseball games left are 2 and 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13 vs. Lake Michigan College; 2 and 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20 vs. Lansing Community College; 1 and 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 29 vs. Glen Oaks Community College; and 1 and 3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 6 vs. Marian University's Ancilla College.

Visit **athletics.kvcc.edu** for the full and current schedule. Read a longer version of this article at **https://bit.ly/SpringSports_2023**.

## COLLEGE RECEIVES GRANT FOR EMS TRAINING

Kalamazoo Valley Community College has received a $192,000 award from the 2023 EMS Workforce Grant administered through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. This award allows the college to provide scholarships to the 24 paramedic students accepted into the Fall 2023 cohort (graduating August 2024). The scholarship will cover tuition and fees, books, software and associated clinical costs for fall paramedic classes.

The initial award is for the period of Feb. 1 to Sept. 30, 2023. Grantees awarded funding during this initial grant period are expected to receive completion funding, meaning students funded during the initial period are expected to be funded through completion of their paramedic education. Additionally, because Kalamazoo Valley's paramedic program is an associate of applied science degree, students may be reimbursed for prerequisite course tuition, including EMT, for courses taken at Valley during the grant period.

To qualify for the paramedic program grant, students must apply to and be accepted into the paramedic program for Fall 2023. The Health Careers Online Application will be available from April 1 - 15, 2023. Kalamazoo Valley will award the grant to the 24 applicants accepted into the fall.

Contact EMS Program Director Daniel Benard at 269.548.3231or the Health Careers Admissions Coordinator at healthcareers@kvcc.edu for more information.


Kalamazoo Valley Community College
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KV Focus is a publication of Kalamazoo Valley Community College. Questions about the publication may be directed to the college marketing department at 269.488.4821.

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KalamazooVALLEY community college

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**BRONSON HEALTHY LIVING CAMPUS** 418 East Walnut Street 269.548.3205
**GROVES CAMPUS** 7107 Elm Valley Drive 269.353.1253
**KALAMAZOO VALLEY MUSEUM** 230 North Rose Street 269.373.7990
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**www.kvcc.edu**

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KV FOCUS

www.kvcc.edu/ccmonth
APRIL IS COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH

**SUMMER CLASSES START MAY 8**
**kvcc.edu/register**

A Kalamazoo Valley Community College Publication
April 2023

KalamazooVALLEY community college


# BE OUR GUEST! REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CLASSES

Are you a student returning home from a four-year school looking to get ahead? Now is the time to register for summer semester classes at Kalamazoo Valley. Classes start May 8, May 22 and June 27.

With easy transferability to most four-year colleges and universities, taking a summer class – either online, in person or hybrid – saves students time and money. At $120 per contact hour in-district, Kalamazoo Valley costs a fraction of four-year universities.

From communications, business and accounting to algebra, calculus, psychology and wellness and physical education, there is something for nearly everyone this summer at Valley.

Students looking to improve their presentation skills might find COM 101, Public Speaking or COM 113, Interpersonal Communications valuable. For those looking to explore new careers, ACC 101, Principles of Accounting or BUS 103 Business Computer Applications are popular choices.

ENG 110 and ENG 111 will help students become competent writers. MATH 150, College Algebra helps students get ahead and stay ahead.

"Students who are enrolled in other colleges and universities often return home for the summer and Kalamazoo Valley makes becoming a guest student easy. Students only need to complete a free online Kalamazoo Valley application and identify themselves as a guest student," said Valley's Director of Admissions, Registration and Records Sarah Hubbell.

Students will receive an acceptance letter within one week containing the information they need to register for classes through the college's self-service online portal.

Before enrolling, guest students should consult with their current college or university to ensure that the classes they take at Kalamazoo Valley will be accepted as transfer credits. Once they have completed coursework at Kalamazoo Valley, students should submit a request to have an official transcript sent back to their primary institution.

The benefits of taking summer classes at Kalamazoo Valley are numerous, Hubbell explained.

"Not only does this help students stay on track for graduation or get ahead in their program, they can also take advantage of our affordable tuition and small class sizes while completing classes that are offered in a shorter time frame than in a standard semester."

Online class registration is available now at **www.kvcc.edu/register**.

# NEW MICHIGAN ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

To make college more affordable for families, grow Michigan's talent pool and get the state closer to achieving its "Sixty by 30" goal of having 60 percent of the state's adult population with some sort of degree or credential by 2030, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer recently announced the Michigan Achievement Scholarship. This new program begins with the 2023 high school graduating class.

Through the scholarship program, students receive:

- Up to $2,000 if they attend an eligible private training provider in Michigan, per year, up to two years
- Up to $2,750 if they attend a community college, per year, up to three years
- Up to $5,500 if they attend a public university, per year, up to five years
- Up to $4,000 if they attend a private college or university, per year, up to five years

"The Michigan Achievement Scholarship goes far at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, as the college strives to keep the cost of education affordable," said Alisha Cederberg, dean of student experience at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. "Students attending Kalamazoo Valley are eligible for up to $2,750 per year. Combined with other aid opportunities, the cost of tuition should not be a barrier to attend. We are confident we can find a way for students to achieve more when they come to Kalamazoo Valley."

To determine eligibility and use the scholarship at Kalamazoo Valley, students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). No separate application for the scholarship is required.

Students should then submit their application for admission to Kalamazoo Valley at **www.kvcc.edu/apply**. Students will receive an acceptance letter within a week and notification regarding the Michigan Achievement Scholarship within 2-3 weeks.

Fall semester classes begin Sept. 6 and registration is now open. For assistance registering for classes and to sign up for orientation, call 269.488.4040.

**Kalamazoo Valley Community College**
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*Abigail Long*

*Myles Johnson*

# TWO BASKETBALL PLAYERS REACH 1,000-POINT MILESTONE

High-fives go out to Kalamazoo Valley basketball players Abigail Long, of the women's team, and Myles Johnson, of the men's team, for reaching the 1,000-point milestone at the college. Long and Johnson accomplished the feat on Feb. 18 and Feb. 11, respectively.

"In my 12 years as athletic director at Kalamazoo Valley, this is the first time that I've had student-athletes reach this milestone," said Athletic Director Russ Panico. "I am in awe and extremely proud of Myles' and Abigail's achievement."

Long, a Portage Central High School graduate who is studying web design and coaching at Valley, is a point guard. She was Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) Freshman and Player of the Year last season, averaging 25 points and 10 rebounds. Long is co-captain for the second consecutive year. She has also maintained a 4.0 GPA and is on track to graduate this spring. Last summer, Long was selected to participate in the National Junior College Athletic Association's Annual Women's Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Weekend in Atlanta. Only 40 student-athletes were chosen nationwide.

Johnson, a Portage Northern High School graduate, is a guard and forward. "Johnson is a leader on and off the court," said Head Coach Jim Horn. "His games speak for themselves, and off the court he continues to strive for excellence. Recently our team was asked to come participate in Lincoln Elementary Spirit Week assembly. Johnson and some of our team responded by attending and leading a special segment at the event, which was a big hit. Johnson also takes his studies serious, currently maintaining a 3.54 GPA while keeping his plate full with basketball, academics and community service. He has participated in a total of four service projects so far this school year." He is scheduled to graduate this spring with an associate degree in liberal arts.

# LAWTON FAMILY HONORS
## BROTHER WITH SCHOLARSHIP

*Bill Cronenwett Jr.*

Bryan Cronenwett describes his brother Bill Cronenwett Jr. as an entrepreneur who was always willing to help others out. That's why Bryan and his sisters, Sue Harris and Kay Walters, had no qualms about donating $100,000 to the KVCC Foundation for the establishment of the William S. Cronenwett Jr. Memorial Scholarship. The siblings were in charge of carrying out their brother's wish to make a lasting contribution to a worthy cause.

The endowed scholarship will be awarded annually to eligible Kalamazoo Valley students enrolled in the Emergency Medical Services program, including EMS, EMT and paramedics. The first three awards will be given during the Fall 2023 semester. Students from Van Buren county are encouraged to apply.

Bill Cronenwett, who died in May 2021 at the age of 70, was a lifelong resident of Lawton. After graduating from Lawton High School, he served in the U.S. Air Force. In 1980, he earned an associate of science degree in business administration from Kalamazoo Valley.

He served for many years on the community's Quick Response Team and the Lawton Fire Department and was one of the original first responders. He owned and operated the Village Party Store in Lawton and later opened a construction and landscaping business called Hilltop Construction.

"He was always willing to help people out who were willing to help themselves," Bryan Cronenwett said. "He was very committed to giving back to the community. That's why we felt that establishing a scholarship to help students get started with a career in EMS made sense. Bill wanted to put money toward helping other people get started."

Cronenwett said he and his sisters were impressed that there are no administrative fees associated with creating a scholarship through the KVCC Foundation. "We're happy that
the scholarship will help multiple people over a long period of time and that the money goes directly to students," he said.

Cronenwett is certain that his brother would be pleased. "There's a real need for EMTs and community support of people who want to get started in meaningful careers," he said. "This will have a lasting impact that will continue to help the community."

*Bill Cronenwett Jr.'s siblings Sue Harris, Bryan Cronenwett and Kay Walters.*

His sister, Sue Harris, agreed. "I would describe "Bill" as being quite frugal but if he heard of someone who was struggling, his quiet, generous side would come out. I feel that the scholarship will carry on that legacy."

Kalamazoo Valley offers an EMT-basic program that includes several track options for completion: a traditional two-semester option; a matriculation option for those who are already licensed medical first responders; and a 14-week academy option. The online health careers application is available at **www.kvcc.edu** or by emailing healthcareers@kvcc.edu.

For more information about the scholarship, see **www.kvcc.edu/scholarships**.

# ALUMNI+ ART SHOW
## ENTRIES ACCEPTED NOW

Entries in the twelfth annual juried Alumni+ Art Show will be accepted through May 18. The show will be held at the Center for New Media on June 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. An alumni artist can enter the show if he or she has successfully completed at least one class at Kalamazoo Valley, is not currently enrolled in any class at the time of the show (Summer 2023) and is not employed at Kalamazoo Valley. Please consider this great opportunity to show off your talent and share what you have been creating since leaving Kalamazoo Valley, and compete for cash awards! The awards program will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Center for New Media in Room 120. The event is sponsored by Bell's Brewery.

Access the gallery requirements, submission forms and more information about the show **www.kvcc.edu/alumni/artshow**. Submissions will be accepted April 3 to May 18, M-Th, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., call Cindy Parks at the CNM at the 269.373.7881 to arrange a time.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE Kalamazoo VALLEY Museum KV

# MUSEUM EVENTS TUNE UP
## MIND AND BODY

Tune up your mind and body in May with the Kalamazoo Valley Museum's free and fun activities to help you be a healthier you. The museum is operated by Kalamazoo Valley Community College and governed by its Board of Trustees.

### MENTAL HEALTH FAIR

Good mental health is an important aspect of everyone's life, so the Kalamazoo Valley Museum invites everyone to check out its Mental Health Fair on Saturday, May 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. on the museum's first floor and Mary Jane Stryker Theater. Hear speakers and visit the informational tables of eight to 10 local agencies to learn about resources promoting mental health and well-being, such as Gryphon Place, Be Smart, Western Michigan University Therapy Dog Clinic, Disability Network Southwest Michigan and more. The free event is directly tied to the goals of the museum's current "Mental Health: Mind Matters" exhibit.

mental health MIND MATTERS
Presented by PrairieCare

### MIND MATTERS EXHIBIT

Be sure to stop by "Mental Health: Mind Matters" on display at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum until June 18. This interactive exhibit is well worth the trip, as it presents the complex issue of mental wellness in an easy-to-follow way and with great depth. Participate in empathy-building exercises, learn how to be kind to your mind and more. Visit **kalamazoomuseum.org** for details. Admission is free to the exhibit and to the museum.

# FREE COOKING CLASSES AVALIABLE
## FOR AREA YOUTH

The Learning Kitchen teaches students how to cook nutritious, low-cost meals, create healthy nutrition habits and to have fun while cooking. This free six-week program is virtual via Zoom and is taught by a dietitian and facilitated by a chef.

The program includes weekly complementary groceries (available for pickup at Kalamazoo Valley Community College) for each registered student to cook along during class.

This program is funded in whole or in part by the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Michigan Fitness Foundation. This Institution is an equal opportunity provider. Register at **https://bit.ly/KVCC_CCN**. For questions, please contact Lizzie Luchsinger: mluchsinger@kvcc.edu.

Middle School Dates:
Thursdays | 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
May 18 and 25; June 1, 8, 15, 22

High School Dates:
Thursdays | 6 - 7 p.m.
May 18 and 15; June 1, 8, 15, 22

Program Coordinator Lizzie Luchsinger said the class is open to Kalamazoo area middle and high school students.

Participants (and their families) have been enthusiastic. "My teens are learning healthy eating mindset, great new recipes, wise food choices and budgeting taught to them by experts and a professional chef," said parent Alla White.

# ADVISORY BOARDS CONTRIBUTE
## TO STUDENTS SUCCESS

*Culinary*

*Brewing*

*Graphic Design*

*Welding*

Area business owners and leaders who often compete with one another for customers and sales came together to collectively support Kalamazoo Valley Community College's students and its programs at the college's recent advisory board meetings.

More than 150 people, representing businesses from throughout Southwest Michigan, attended the March advisory board meetings to provide employer-based information related to the marketplace and the relevance of the college's training programs and courses to faculty and staff.

"An advisory committee is composed of business and industry representatives, chosen for their ability to advise the college on the content of the curriculum, their desire to provide insight to the future direction of the workforce and their potential to hire Kalamazoo Valley students," said Paige Eagan, Ph.D., provost and vice president for academic and student services at Kalamazoo Valley. "We rely on their expertise, experience and commitment as we strive to prepare students for in-demand careers."

Attendees, representing such companies as Bronson Health Care, Stryker Corporation, Zoetis, Robert Half, Zeigler Auto Group, Pfizer, Eaton Corporation and TEKsystems, discussed industry trends, labor needs and employee skill requirements with faculty and staff from the following programs:

- Computer Information Systems
- Medical Assistant Technology
- Welding
- Business/Accounting/Office Occupations
- Graphic Design
- Automotive
- Culinary
- Dental Hygiene
- Emergency Medical Technology
- Nursing
- Brewing
- Respiratory Care Practitioner
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning
- Engineering, Design, Manufacturing Technologies
- Electrical Technology

Luke Vanderhill, co-owner of Nieboer Heating and Cooling, Inc., in Parchment, has been an advisory board member for more than 20 years, sitting on the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Committee.

"It's been a really great opportunity to communicate and help guide the instructors who are teaching our future employees," Vanderhill said. "This working partnership leads to students becoming better technicians. It has been very beneficial to collaborate and network with instructors and other industry employers about emerging trends in the field and is a great resource to have as our Industry continues to grow. It's a win-win for students, instructors, employers and, ultimately, our community."

The advisory board meets twice per year and welcomes new members annually. As a member of an advisory board committee, members may be asked to:

- Identify specific job skills currently required for entry into the occupation
- Review course content, program standards and learning objectives to meet the changing needs of the industry
- Indicate continuing-education needs for current jobs
- Assist in projecting current and future, local and regional,employment opportunities
- Provide suggestions for new programs for emerging jobs
- Provide suggestions to assist faculty in updating equipment, software and other instructional resources
- Assist the college in applying for federal educational grants and resources
- Nurture a positive public image for vocational training programs
- Identify emerging trends in the industry

"Creating an economy where every person has full access to the training and tools necessary to become a successful member of society is our goal," said L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D., college president. "Successful educational programs result from cooperative efforts among industry, labor and education."

Please email **advisoryboard@kvcc.edu** if interested in sitting on an advisory board committee.

# KALAMAZOO VALLEY
## HOSTS FIRST VALLEYHUB SUMMIT

*Recipe demonstration at the ValleyHUB Summit by Chef Glenn Noffsinger*

More than 70 farmers, food producers, food service directors and buyers, community and state partners, and stakeholders gathered at Kalamazoo Valley's Texas Township Campus to connect, learn and share during the ValleyHUB Summit on Jan. 12.
The event created an opportunity for ValleyHUB staff to share about the state of the food hub and engage in meaningful discussions around food safety, crop planning, institutional food procurement and more. Farms, producers and buyers from across Southwest Michigan were represented, including some of the farms instrumental in the development of ValleyHUB.

ValleyHUB is a food hub that operates as a social-enterprise business within Kalamazoo Valley Community College whose goal is simple: to get more local foods on more local plates by connecting local farmers and makers to local markets. ValleyHUB's key role is to connect farmers and producers to buyers and market channels they wouldn't otherwise be able to reach. From small retail shops to large institutional customers, buyers can shop online where farmers and makers can list their crops and items, which range from fresh seasonal produce, to meat and eggs, to prepared items like tortillas and pastas. ValleyHUB then manages all of the marketing, coordination and logistics. Meanwhile, the enterprise serves as a living lab for Kalamazoo Valley's educational programs.

In her opening remarks, Director for Sustainable Food Systems at Kalamazoo Valley Rachel Bair shared, "That's where the magic is, here at ValleyHUB: the alignment of education with the infrastructure that makes the good choice into the easy choice." She continued, "This is big work. It's complex, and none of us could do it all. That's why we're so happy that this room is full of growers and cooks and purchasers and educators and advocates and eaters - we all have a role to play that is absolutely critical to this system."

Dr. L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D., president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College, welcomed the participants to the event. "A food hub like ValleyHUB is not a typical program for a community college, but there are real ways that it ties into our mission," he said. He shared that, "ValleyHUB is one way we implement our Strategic Plan Priority of cultivating intentional community partnerships: our strategic goal is to 'leverage broad expertise and intentional partnerships to best serve the college community.' You are our community - you are employers and you are providers of key services and beautiful food and you are partners in creating and sustaining a high quality of life in Southwest Michigan."

The day concluded with a Cultivate Michigan Marketplace reception at the Marilyn J. Schlack Culinary and Allied Health Building. Cultivate Michigan Marketplace events focus on connecting institutional food service buyers with local farmers and food makers. The reception featured food prepared by Kalamazoo Valley culinary students and staff, using foods sourced through ValleyHUB.
To learn more about ValleyHUB or becoming a partner, visit the website at **valleyhub.kvcc.edu**.

*ValleyHUB partners discuss food safety issues*

## ABOUT THE KALAMAZOO VALLEY MUSEUM

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is an interactive space where you can immerse yourself in the stories and experiences that bring us together. Discover what unites us through the rich stories of our past, the scientific wonders of the future and everything in between.

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is a place of the community, by the community and for the community.

From its beginning in 1881 as a collection of curiosities in the public library basement, the museum has always been community funded and free to the public.

*The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is operated by Kalamazoo Valley Community College and is governed by its Board of Trustees.*

### ADVENTURE AWAITS!

**June 21 - July 26 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | FREE | Ages 7+ | KVM**
Adventure awaits you at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum this summer. We will be exploring land, sea and space with interactive exhibits, hands-on programs and exciting performers. Activities will be available periodically throughout the day, on a drop-in basis. No preregistration is required. Learn more at **kalamazoomuseum.org**.

ATHLETIC CAMPS

### VOLLEYBALL CAMP

**June 19 - 22 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
Girls entering grades 6 - 8 | 9 a.m. - noon
Girls entering grades 9 - 12 | 1 - 4 p.m.
**Equipment needed:** Gym shoes, socks, shorts, knee pads, jersey or T-shirt and labeled water bottle or thermos.
**Camp fee:** $115 until May 22. $140 for registrations received after May 23. *Registration closes June 12.*

### GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP

**June 26 - 29 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
Girls entering grades 6 - 8 | 9 a.m. - noon
Girls entering grades 9 - 12 | 1 - 4 p.m.
**Equipment needed:** Gym shoes, socks, shorts, jersey or T-shirt and labeled water bottle or thermos.
**Camp fee:** $115 until May 29. $140 for registrations received after May 29. *Registration closes June 19.*

### BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP

**SESSION 1:**
**July 10 - 13 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
Boys entering grades 6 - 8 | 9 a.m. - noon
Boys entering grades 9 - 12 | 1- 4 p.m.
**Camp fee:** $115 until June 12. $140 for registrations received after June 12. *Registration closes July 3.*

**SESSION 2:**
**July 17 - 20 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
Boys entering grades 6 - 8 | 9 a.m. - noon
Boys entering grades 9 - 12 | 1- 4 p.m.
**Camp fee:** $115 until June 19. $140 for registrations received after June 19. *Registration closes July 10.*
**Equipment needed:** Gym shoes, socks, shorts, jersey or T-shirt and labeled water bottle or thermos.

### SOFTBALL CAMP

**July 24 - 27 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
Girls entering grades 4 - 7 | 9 a.m. - noon
Girls entering grades 8 - 12 | 1 - 4 p.m.
**Equipment needed:** All campers should arrive dressed to play each day with a softball glove, bat, helmet, cleats and labeled water bottle or thermos.
**Camp fee:** $115 through June 26. $140 for registrations after June 26. *Registration closes July 17.*

### VOLLEYBALL HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CAMP

**June 29 | July 13, 20, 27 | 7 - 9 p.m.**
High school teams only.
**Equipment needed:** Gym shoes, socks, shorts, knee pads, jersey or T-shirt and labeled water bottle or thermos.
**Team fee:** $250. *No registration deadline.*

All camps are held at the Texas Township Campus.

A limited number of scholarships are available. Contact Athletic Director Russ Panico at rpanico@kvcc.edu or 269.488.4393.

*Cancellation Policy: Campers may cancel or request a refund (less a $25 administrative fee) up to seven days before their camp begins. No refunds will be given after this deadline.*

### SCAN HERE FOR REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION

All camp registration information can be found at campusce.net/kvccommunity under Youth Summer Camps, unless otherwise noted. Spots are filling up fast. Secure your place now!